

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 – 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A ceramic heater comprising a ceramic substrate and a resistance heating body formed on a surface thereof, wherein the resistance heating body is formed on a face of the ceramic substrate opposite to a heating face thereof and a scattering of a thickness of the resistance heating body is within a range of $\pm 50\%$ of an average thickness.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A ceramic heater according to claim 19, wherein the ceramic substrate is a carbide or nitride ceramic.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A ceramic heater according to claim 19, wherein the ceramic substrate has a thickness of not more than 25 mm.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A ceramic heater according to claim 19, wherein an insulating layer of an oxide ceramic is formed on the surface of the ceramic substrate and the resistance heating body is formed on a surface of the insulating layer.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A ceramic heater according to claim 19, wherein the resistance heating body is constructed by two or more circuits.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A ceramic heater ~~comprising a ceramic substrate and a resistance heating body formed on a surface thereof, wherein the resistance heating body is formed on a face of the ceramic substrate opposite to a heating face thereof and~~ according to claim 19, wherein a surface roughness of the resistance heating body is within a range of 0.05 μm - 100 μm as R_{max} ~~and not more than 50% of an average thickness of the resistance heating body.~~

Claims 25 - 28 (Canceled)

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A ceramic heater ~~comprising a ceramic substrate and a resistance heating body formed on a surface thereof, wherein the resistance heating body is formed on a face of the ceramic substrate opposite to a heating face thereof and a scattering of a thickness of the resistance heating body is within a range of $\pm 50\%$ of an average thickness and~~ according to claim 19, wherein a surface roughness of the resistance heating body is within a range of 0.05 μm - 100 μm as R_{max} and not more than 50% of an average thickness of the resistance heating body.

Claims 30 - 33 (Canceled)

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 25-28 and 30-33 will be canceled, and claims 24 and 29 will be amended, whereby claims 19-24 and 29 will remain pending. will remain pending. Therefore, upon entry of this amendment, claim 19 will be the sole independent claim.

Applicants note that in order to advance prosecution of the application by reducing the number of rejections, and without expressing any agreement or acquiescence with the rejections